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Atty. Docket No. 0218.002.00003 U.S. Serial No. 10/762,533

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: David C. Paul, et al.

Appl. No. 10/762,533

Filed: January 23, 2004

For: SPINE STABILIZATION SYSTEM

Atty. Docket: 0218.002.0003

Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: P. Philogene

Confirmation No.: 5342

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed December 28, 2004, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks for entry and consideration during the examination of the above-identified application. Applicants believe the following amendments place the claims in condition for allowance, or at least in better form for consideration on appeal, and entry at this time is respectfully requested.